



THEY ESCORTED BOMBERS INTO EUROPE AND EQUALITY INTO AMERICA.

Racism, segregation, ignorance — the flying conditions for the Tuskegee Airmen were less than perfect. There was a belief that black men lacked the intelligence, skill and courage necessary to become combat pilots. These men had to fight two wars: one against

prejudice and the other against Nazism. They won both.

They flew over 15,000 sorties in WWII, but the bravery, courage and skill of the Tuskegee Airmen may best be illustrated by their bomber escort missions: They escorted more than 200 bomber

So many Luftwaffe pilots were bested by the 99th Fighter Squadron that the Tuskegee Airmen managed to build a reputation that spread across the Atlantic into Germany.



The Tuskegee Airmen were awarded hundreds of medals, including 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

missions and never lost a bomber to an enemy fighter.

The many achievements of the Tuskegee Airmen spoke volumes, and President Harry Truman listened. In 1948, he desegregated the armed forces. It was the first step toward true equality in America.

Thanks in part to the Tuskegee Airmen, when you Cross Into The Blue in the United States Air Force, the world of opportunity and honor is available to everyone. They made the most of their opportunity. What will you do with yours?



U.S. AIR FORCE

CROSS INTO THE BLUE

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